REMARKS

Claims 1-35 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 28-32 and 34 are amended. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicant gratefully appreciates the indication that claims 1-27, 33 and 35 are allowed.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (as the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution); and (c) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner Choobin during the December 5, 2005 telephone interview, are gratefully appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

The Office Action rejects claims 28-32 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Panter et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,751,832), and Stam et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,728,393). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As agreed during the telephone interview, none of the applied references, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest an information processing apparatus that includes an information storage section that stores, for each given information piece, the first parameter by assigning the first parameter to each of the pixels located in a detection space, a parameter integration section that integrates the first parameter and assigns a second parameter to the pixel, as recited in independent claim 28. Moreover, none of the applied references, alone or

in combination, disclose or suggest an information integration apparatus that includes a first reliability storage section that stores predetermined first reliability, and a weighting section that assigns a weight to the first parameter assigned to each pixel, and that assigns the weighted first parameter to the pixel, as recited in independent claim 29. Also, none of the applied references, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest a controller that includes a control information generation section that generates control information pertaining to the object situated in the detection space, a processing execution section that performs processing, as recited in independent claim 30. Furthermore, none of the applied references, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest an object detection apparatus that includes a sensor section that detects the presence of an object, and a reliability setting section that sets the reliability of the sensor, as recited in independent claim 31. Also, none of the applied references, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest an object detection apparatus that includes a sensor section that detects presence of an object, as recited in independent claim 32. Finally, none of the applied references, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest an information processing apparatus that includes at least one sensor section that detects presence of an object, as recited in independent claim 34.

Panter teaches an apparatus and method for aiming a vehicle headlight to a standard image pattern including a frame movable relative to the vehicle (Abstract).

Stam teaches a system and method of automatically controlling vehicle headlamps including an image sensor and a controller to generate headlamp control signals (Abstract).

As agreed during the telephone conference, neither Panter nor Stam, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the features of independent claims 28-32 and 34. In particular, neither Panter nor Stam, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest an information storage section that stores for each given information a first parameter, a parameter integration section that integrates a first parameter assigned to each pixel, a

reliability storage section that stores a predetermined reliability of the first parameter assigned to each pixel, a control information generation section that generates control information pertaining to an object in a detection space, a processing execution section that performs processing using the control information, or a sensor section that detects the presence of an object in at least a portion of a predetermined detection space. Thus, independent claims 28-32 and 34 are patentable over the applied references. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-35 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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